United Nations A/58/L.34

General Assembly

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2 December 2003

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 40 (a)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Morocco,* Netherlands, Portugal, Russian Federation, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, the annex to which contains the guiding principles for the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system, as well as all its resolutions on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development and recalling the resolutions of the humanitarian segments of the substantive sessions of the Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the importance of the principles of neutrality, humanity and impartiality for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Emphasizing that the affected State has the primary responsibility in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory, and in the facilitation of the work of humanitarian organizations in mitigating the consequences of natural disasters,

Emphasizing also the importance of integrating risk reduction into development planning and post-disaster recovery,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

03-63786 (E) 031203

Emphasizing further, in this context, the important role of development organizations in supporting national efforts to mitigate the consequences of natural disasters,

Emphasizing the responsibility of all States to undertake disaster preparedness, response and mitigation efforts in order to minimize the impact of natural disasters, while recognizing the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of affected countries which may have limited capacities to fulfil this requirement,

Welcoming the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction,

Stressing that national authorities need to enhance the resilience of populations to disasters through, inter alia, implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction so as to reduce risks to people, their livelihoods, the social and economic infrastructure and environmental resources,

Taking into account the outcome of the Second International Conference on Early Warning, held in Bonn, Germany, from 16 to 18 October 2003, under the auspices of the United Nations,

Noting the critical role played by local resources in natural disaster response as well as by existing in-country capacities,

Recognizing the significant role played by national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies in disaster preparedness and risk reduction, disaster response, rehabilitation and development,

Emphasizing the importance of raising awareness among developing countries of the capacities existing at the national, regional and international levels that could be deployed to assist them,

Emphasizing also the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of the affected States in dealing with natural disasters in all their phases, including prevention, preparedness, mitigation and recovery and reconstruction, and of strengthening the response capacity of affected countries,

Welcoming the efforts of Member States, with facilitation by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and in cooperation with the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of international urban search and rescue assistance, and in this context noting its resolution 57/150 of 16 December 2002 entitled "Strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance",

Encouraging, in this regard, efforts aiming at the strengthening of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group and its regional groups, particularly through the participation in its activities of representatives of a larger number of countries,

Mindful of the effects that shortfalls in resources can have on the preparedness for and response to natural disasters, and underscoring, in this regard, the need to gain a more precise understanding of the impact of levels of funding on natural disaster response,

Underlining the need for further improvement in information and analysis available regarding needs, responses and funding related to natural disasters,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General entitled "International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development"[1] and "Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations";[2]

2. *Expresses its deep concern* at the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact, resulting in massive losses of life and property worldwide, in particular in vulnerable societies lacking adequate capacity to mitigate effectively the long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences of natural disasters;

3. *Calls upon* all States to adopt, where required, and to continue to implement effectively necessary legislative and other appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of natural disasters, inter alia, by disaster prevention, including appropriate land use and building regulations, as well as disaster preparedness and capacity-building in disaster response and mitigation, and requests the international community to continue to assist developing countries in this regard;

4. *Stresses*, in this context, the importance of strengthening international cooperation, particularly through the effective use of multilateral mechanisms, in the provision of humanitarian assistance through all phases of a disaster, from relief and mitigation to development, including the provision of adequate resources;

5. *Also stresses* that humanitarian assistance for natural disasters should be provided in accordance with and with due respect for the guiding principles contained in the annex to resolution 46/182 and should be determined on the basis of the human dimension and needs arising out of the particular natural disasters;

6. *Recognizes* that economic growth and sustainable development contributes to improving the capacity of States to mitigate, respond to and prepare for natural disasters;

7. *Reaffirms* that disaster risk analysis and vulnerability reduction form an integral part of humanitarian assistance, poverty eradication and sustainable development strategies and need to be considered in the development plans of all vulnerable countries and communities, including, where appropriate, in plans relating to the transition from relief to development, and affirms that within such preventive strategies, disaster preparedness and early warning systems must be further strengthened at the country and regional levels, inter alia, through better coordination among relevant United Nations bodies and cooperation with Governments of affected countries and regional and other relevant organizations with the aim of maximizing the effectiveness of natural disaster response and reducing the impact of natural disasters, particularly in developing countries;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance of establishing or updating, as appropriate, national disaster preparedness plans, as agreed upon at the twenty-seventh International Conference of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, held in Geneva in 1999;

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[1] A/58/434.

[2] A/58/89-E/2003/85.

9. *Emphasizes* the importance of enhanced international cooperation, including through the United Nations and regional organizations, to assist developing countries in their efforts to build capacities and to predict, prepare for and respond to natural disasters;

10. *Stresses* the need for partnerships among Governments, organizations of the United Nations system, relevant humanitarian organizations and specialized companies to promote training to strengthen preparedness for and response to natural disasters;

11. *Also stresses* the need to promote the access to and transfer of technology related to early warning systems and to mitigation programmes to developing countries affected by natural disasters;

12. *Encourages* the further use of space-based and ground-based remote-sensing technologies for the prevention, mitigation and management of natural disasters, where appropriate;

13. *Also encourages* in such operations the sharing of geographical data, including remotely sensed images and geographic information system and global positioning system data among Governments, space agencies and relevant international humanitarian organizations, as appropriate, and also notes in that context initiatives such as those undertaken by the International Charter on Space and Major Disasters and the Global Disaster Information Network;

14. *Stresses* that particular international cooperation efforts should be undertaken to enhance and broaden further the utilization of national and local capacities and, where appropriate, regional and subregional capacities of developing countries for disaster preparedness and response, which may be made available in closer proximity to the site of a disaster, more efficiently and at lower cost;

15. *Recognizes* in this regard that the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination system continues to be a valuable tool by which disaster management expertise is made available by Member States to respond to the sudden onset of emergencies;

16. *Welcomes* the role of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat as the focal point within the overall United Nations system for the promotion and coordination of disaster responses among United Nations humanitarian agencies and other humanitarian partners;

17. *Takes note with interest* of the initiatives taken by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the United Nations Development Programme for the establishment of regional positions of disaster response advisers and disaster reduction advisers to assist developing countries in capacity-building for disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation and response in a coordinated and complementary manner;

18. *Encourages* further cooperation between the United Nations system and regional organizations in order to increase the capacity of these organizations to respond to natural disasters;

19. *Encourages* States that have not acceded to or ratified the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster

Mitigation and Relief Operations, adopted at Tampere, Finland, on 18 June 1998, to consider doing so;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with relevant organizations and partners, to finalize establishment of, and then update periodically, the Directory of Advanced Technologies for Disaster Response as a new part of the Central Register of Disaster Management Capacities;[3]

21. *Encourages* donors to consider the importance of ensuring that assistance in the case of higher-profile natural disasters does not come at the expense of those that may have a relatively lower profile, bearing in mind that the allocation of resources should be driven by needs, as well as the importance of making efforts to increase the level of assistance for disaster reduction and preparedness programmes and for disaster response and mitigation activities;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to examine ways to further improve the assessment of needs and responses and to enhance the availability of data regarding funding in response to natural disasters and to consider concrete recommendations to improve the international response to natural disasters, as necessary, based on his examination, keeping in mind also the need to address any geographical and sectoral imbalances and shortfalls in such responses, where they exist, as well as the more effective use of national emergency response agencies, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.

[3] www.reliefweb.int/ocha_ol/programs/response/register.html.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 40 (a)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Morocco,* Netherlands, Portugal, Russian Federation, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Monaco, Norway, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 40 (b)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Greece, India, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Portugal, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Emergency humanitarian assistance to Malawi

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions in particular, resolutions 46/182 of 19 December 1991, 54/219 and 54/233 of 22 December 1999, 55/163 of 14 December 2000 and 56/103 of 14 December 2001, and Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/32 of 26 July 2002,

Convinced that all people have the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of themselves and their families, including food, medical care, necessary social services and security in the event of lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond their control,

Noting that drought and other types of natural disasters have proved to be recurring phenomena in Malawi,

Reiterating that natural disasters damage the social and economic infrastructure of affected countries, although the long-term consequences of such natural disasters are especially severe for poor developing countries, including Malawi, and hamper sustainable development,

Concerned that Malawi continues to face natural catastrophes such as drought, floods and heavy rains, causing serious crop failure, loss of life and extensive damage to property and infrastructure,

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Noting that an increasing number of cases of malnutrition, particularly among children, and deaths due to hunger-related diseases continue to occur in Malawi, with adverse long-term consequences,

Deeply alarmed that the rapid spread of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) has increased the vulnerability of communities, creating greater levels of dependency and severely reducing their ability to cope with humanitarian crises,

Gravely concerned that the capability of the national economy to absorb such shocks has been seriously eroded and that the frequent occurrence of extreme natural disasters has increasingly contributed to the stagnation of social and economic development,

Acknowledging that national efforts are critical to prevent the deepening of the humanitarian crisis,

Noting with appreciation the mobilization and allocation of resources by States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to complement Malawi's national efforts,

Aware that international cooperation remains a critical factor for the success of all national efforts to address the crisis situation,

1. *Welcomes* the positive role of the Government of Malawi in the relief operations, in particular the close coordination between the United Nations system and the Government;

2. *Also welcomes* the launching by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat of the consolidated appeal for Malawi on 18 July 2002 and the humanitarian appeal for 2004 on 18 November 2003, as well as the continued monitoring of the situation, including through the activities of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Humanitarian Needs in Southern Africa;

3. *Requests* the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to continue to seek ways and means of improving the effectiveness of the United Nations consolidated appeals process;

4. *Calls upon* all States to adopt, where required, and to continue to implement effectively, the legislative and other appropriate measures necessary to mitigate the effects of natural disasters, inter alia, in the areas of disaster prevention, including building regulations and appropriate land-use policies, as well as early warning, disaster preparedness and capacity-building in disaster response, and in that context requests the international community to continue to assist Malawi as the need arises;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of enhanced international cooperation, including with the United Nations and regional organizations, to assist Malawi in its efforts to build capacity and to predict, prepare for and respond to natural disasters;

6. *Stresses*, in that context, the need to further strengthen international cooperation in the provision of emergency humanitarian assistance in support of the efforts of Malawi to deal with natural disasters in all their phases, from relief and mitigation to development, including through the provision of adequate resources, and encourages the effective use of multilateral mechanisms;

7. *Also stresses* that emergency humanitarian assistance for natural disasters should be provided in accordance with the guiding principles contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 46/182, on the basis of human dimensions and needs;

8. *Urges* the international community to continue to support the efforts of Malawi to fight the HIV/AIDS pandemic, poverty and malnutrition in order to increase its capacity to cope during natural disasters;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly for consideration at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 40 (b)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Greece, India, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Portugal, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Emergency humanitarian assistance to Malawi

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Italy, Kenya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mauritania, Norway and Togo

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General Assembly

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4 December 2003

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 12
Report of the Economic and Social Council

Morocco:* draft resolution

Report of the Committee for Development Policy

The General Assembly,

Noting that Timor-Leste became a member of the United Nations on 27 September 2002,

Recalling Economic and Social Council decisions 2003/280 and 2003/281 of 24 July 2003 on the report of the Committee for Development Policy,[1]

Recognizing that Timor-Leste has given its consent to be included in the list of least developed countries,

Endorses the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council that Timor-Leste be added to the list of the least developed countries.

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 13* (E/2003/33).

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General Assembly

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5 December 2003

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 158
International convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings

Costa Rica: draft resolution

International convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights,[1] adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 11 November 1997, and in particular article 11 thereof, which states that practices which are contrary to human dignity, such as the reproductive cloning of human beings, shall not be permitted,

Recalling also its resolution 53/152 of 9 December 1998, by which it endorsed the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights,

Bearing in mind Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/69 of 25 April 2003, entitled "Human rights and bioethics", adopted at the fifty-ninth session of the Commission,

Bearing also in mind Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/39, entitled "Genetic privacy and non-discrimination", of 26 July 2001,

Aware of the rapid development of the life sciences and of ethical concerns raised by certain of their applications with regard to the dignity of the human race and the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the individual,

Concerned at recently disclosed information on research into and attempts at the creation of human beings through cloning processes,

Convinced that human cloning, for any purpose whatsoever, is unethical, morally repugnant and contrary to due respect for the human person, and that it cannot be justified or accepted,

[1] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizations, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-ninth session*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, resolution 16.

03-64392 (E) 051203

Recalling that recognition of the inherent dignity and equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world, as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Seeking to promote scientific and technical progress in the fields of biology and genetics in a manner respectful of human rights and for the benefit of all,

Concerned about the serious difficulties of a medical, physical, psychological and social nature that human cloning may imply for the individuals involved, and alarmed that it may cause the exploitation of women,

Recalling its resolution 56/93 of 12 December 2001, by which it decided to establish an Ad Hoc Committee, open to all States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency,

Determined to prevent as a matter of urgency such an attack on the human dignity of the individual,

1. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to be reconvened for one week during the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly in order to prepare, as a matter of urgency, the draft text of an international convention against human cloning, bearing in mind that it will not prohibit the use of nuclear transfer or other cloning techniques to produce deoxyribonucleic acid molecules, organs, plants, tissues, cells other than human embryos or animals other than humans, and recommends that the Sixth Committee designate specific dates for the meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee during the consideration of this item at that session;

2. *Also requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to consider, in developing the draft convention, the proposals put forward during the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly;

3. *Solemnly declares* that, pending the adoption of an international convention against human cloning, States shall prohibit any research, experiment, development or application in their territories or areas under their jurisdiction or control of any technique aimed at human cloning;

4. *Calls upon* States to adopt such measures as may be necessary to prohibit those techniques of genetic engineering that may have adverse consequences on the respect for human dignity;

5. *Strongly encourages* States and other entities to direct funds that might have been used for human cloning technologies to pressing global issues in developing countries such as famine, desertification, infant mortality and diseases, including the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the necessary facilities for the performance of its work;

7. *Invites* the Ad Hoc Committee to take into consideration the contributions of United Nations agencies and competent international organizations in the process of negotiations;

8. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session an item entitled "International convention against human cloning".

United Nations A/58/L.38

General Assembly

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9 December 2003
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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 26
The situation in Central America: progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

Austria, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Malta, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Timor-Leste and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

The situation in Central America: progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions in which it requests the Secretary-General, the United Nations system and the international community to give the Central American peoples the fullest possible support and assistance for the maintenance and strengthening of peace, democracy and sustainable development as well as the relevant Security Council resolutions,

Reaffirming also all its relevant resolutions in which it stresses the importance of international economic, financial and technical cooperation and support, both bilateral and multilateral, aimed at promoting the economic and social development of Central America with a view to supplementing the efforts of the Central American peoples and Governments to consolidate peace and democracy,

Reaffirming likewise the close link and interaction between peace, democracy and sustainable development, as fundamental and permanent pillars of the political action of the Central American Governments aimed at realizing the legitimate aspirations of the Central American peoples with regard to economic development and social justice,

Recognizing that peace and democracy in Central America are the outcome of a long and arduous process in which obstacles have been encountered but have been overcome through the efforts of the peoples and Governments of the region, with the assistance and cooperation of the United Nations system and the international community,

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Commending the efforts of the Central American Governments to continue fulfilling the commitments they have assumed under national, regional and international agreements with a view to strengthening democratic governance in the region by promoting and protecting human rights, implementing social programmes designed to eradicate poverty and eliminate unemployment, improving public safety, strengthening the judiciary, consolidating a modern and transparent public administration and combating corruption,

Taking note of the existence throughout Central America of freely elected Governments, indicating the achievement of political, economic and social changes that are creating a climate conducive to the promotion of economic growth and advancement towards the further development of democratic, just and equitable societies,

Emphasizing in this context the importance of the progress made in connection with the Central American Integration System, the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America, the establishment of the regional social policy contained in the Treaty on Social Integration for Central America and the Framework Treaty on Democratic Security in Central America, and in other areas,

Noting with satisfaction the progress made in the region in the search for peaceful solutions to existing territorial and border disputes, in accordance with the principles of public international law and the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing that the slow development of the economies of the area has been aggravated in the past two years by an unfavourable international economic climate, which has had an adverse effect on the efforts of the peoples and Governments of the region to promote sustainable economic development in an efficient manner,

Recognizing with satisfaction the progress made by the Central American region in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the obligation of States to continue guaranteeing their effective enjoyment,

Recognizing the efforts of the region to enhance public safety by taking steps to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, arms limitation and control, and combating transnational organized crime and terrorism,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Central America;[1]

2. *Commends* the efforts of the peoples and Governments of the Central American countries to consolidate peace and democracy and promote sustainable development by implementing the commitments adopted at the meetings and summit meetings held in the region;

3. *Recognizes* the progress made towards the implementation of the peace agreements in the region and in that context reiterates its special appreciation and congratulations to the people and Government of El Salvador for the successful fulfilment of the commitments set forth in those agreements and expresses its profound thanks to the Secretary-General for accompanying that process and for the commendable way in which he has carried out his verification work, which is considered to be completed;

[1] A/58/270.

4. *Urges* the Government of Guatemala to give renewed impetus to the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the peace agreements, in the context of reprogramming for the period 2001-2004, and to the understanding reached during the fifth meeting of the Consultative Group for Guatemala, organized by the Inter-American Development Bank and held in Guatemala City on 13 and 14 May 2003;

5. *Also urges* the Governments of the region to continue to guarantee free, fair and transparent elections with a view to consolidating democracy in Central America;

6. *Commends* the efforts and actions undertaken in the region to combat the scourge of corruption, urges all the States of the area to continue their actions with a view to eradicating that evil, and in that context takes note of the congratulations expressed in the report of the Secretary-General[2] with regard to the work done by the Government of Nicaragua in this field;

7. *Views with satisfaction* the approval of important reforms relating to the conduct of public affairs and judicial matters in Central America and in that context expresses special satisfaction concerning the progress made in Honduras towards completion of the political transformation process initiated in September 2001 and urges the Central American Governments to redouble their efforts with a view to strengthening those areas even further;

8. *Urges* Member States to continue combining efforts to adapt, strengthen and promote even further the Central American integration process and appeals to the international community to continue supporting that process in order to contribute to the sustainable development of the region;

9. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made by the Central American Governments in the peaceful settlement of their territorial and border disputes and strongly urges them to continue working to resolve outstanding issues in full compliance with the norms of international law and the relevant international decisions and judgements;

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of foreign trade for the development of Central America and in this context stresses the value of negotiating balanced free-trade agreements between the region and its counterparts outside the region;

11. *Reaffirms* the importance of the Puebla-Panama Plan as a means of promoting the economic and social development of the Mesoamerican region and recognizes in that connection the progress made in implementing the Plan;

12. *Urges* the Governments of the Central American countries to continue strengthening the institutions responsible for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, thus helping to ensure their full and effective enjoyment by all the peoples of the region;

13. *Appeals* to the Central American Governments to continue their efforts to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, promote arms limitation and control and combat transnational organized crime and terrorism by fulfilling the obligations assumed in the relevant international agreements;

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[2] See A/58/270, section D.

14. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Central American countries to strengthen public safety in the area by organizing summit meetings on that issue, such as the Special Summit on Regional Security held in the city of Belize on 4 September 2003 and the Special Summit on Security held in Guatemala City on 17 July 2003;

15. *Welcomes* the efforts made to strengthen civilian police forces and promote the demilitarization of the region, in particular the actions taken in the context of the regional plan to combat organized crime, and emphasizes the need for the international community to continue lending its support to the relevant institutions in the field of public safety;

16. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the intention of the Government of Guatemala to establish a commission for the investigation of illegal groups and clandestine security apparatuses, and urges the Secretary-General to support that initiative with a view to its prompt implementation;

17. *Appreciates* the initiative of the Government of Nicaragua relating to the programme for arms limitation and control in Central America to achieve a reasonable balance of forces and to foster stability, mutual trust and transparency, which will be implemented in the region in accordance with the established schedule;

18. *Emphasizes the need* for the international community, especially the organs, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and the donor community, to continue their cooperation with and assistance to the Central American countries, including the provision of bilateral and multilateral financial resources, with the aim of supporting the promotion of sustainable development and the consolidation of peace, freedom and democracy in the region;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to lend his fullest support to the initiatives and activities of the Central American Governments, in particular their efforts to consolidate democracy through the promotion of integration and the implementation of a comprehensive sustainable development programme and to submit to the General Assembly a complete consolidated report on the implementation of all the relevant resolutions on Central America at its sixtieth session under the item entitled "The situation in Central America: progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development", and decides that henceforth the item will be considered every two years.

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 40 (a)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Council,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of implementation of actions described in the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change",[2]

Reaffirming the principles of neutrality, humanity and impartiality for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Recognizing that independence, meaning the autonomy of humanitarian objectives from the political, economic, military or other objectives that any actor

[1] A/58/89-E/2003/85.
[2] A/58/351.

03-65022 (E) 121203

may hold with regard to areas where humanitarian action is being implemented, is also an important guiding principle for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Gravely concerned about the acts of violence against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel, in particular deliberate attacks, which are in violation of international humanitarian law or other international law that may be applicable,

Gravely concerned also about the lack of access by humanitarian personnel to victims of humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflict and in post-conflict situations, in many regions of the world,

Reaffirming the responsibility first and foremost of States to take care of the victims of humanitarian emergencies within their own borders, while recognizing that the magnitude and duration of many emergencies may be beyond the response capacity of many affected countries,

Concerned about the need to mobilize adequate levels of financing for emergency humanitarian assistance,

Emphasizing that the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs should benefit from adequate and more predictable funding, while stressing the importance for the Office to continue to make efforts to broaden its donor base,

Recognizing the importance of humanitarian assistance in ensuring the effective transition from conflict to peace and in preventing the recurrence of armed conflict, and that humanitarian assistance must be provided in ways that will be supportive of recovery and long-term development,

Recognizing also the importance of adequate assistance in the transition from relief to development,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the outcome of the sixth humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council during its substantive session of 2003;

2. *Welcomes* the appointment of the new Emergency Relief Coordinator, encourages the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to continue its efforts to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, including through the Consolidated Appeal Process, and calls upon relevant United Nations organizations as well as other humanitarian and development actors to work with the Office in enhancing the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian assistance;

3. *Stresses* the need to increase in an incremental way, in the normal course of the Secretary-General's budget process, the share of the budget of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs borne by the United Nations regular budget;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the discussion of humanitarian policies and activities in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

5. *Calls upon* relevant organizations of the United Nations system, other relevant international organizations, Governments and non-governmental organizations to cooperate with the Secretary-General and the Emergency Relief Coordinator to ensure timely implementation of and follow-up to resolutions of the

Economic and Social Council adopted at the humanitarian affairs segment of its substantive session;

6. *Encourages* the Economic and Social Council to consider the issue of the transition from relief to development in an integrated manner, through a possible joint meeting of the humanitarian and operational segments, during its substantive session in the near future, in view of the importance of getting humanitarian and development organizations, including international and regional financial institutions and non-governmental organizations, to discuss and review more fully the implications of the transition from relief to development in their programming, and invites the Council to take into account, inter alia, the work in progress by the United Nations system to clarify its role in post-conflict transition situations as well as other relevant information in its consideration;

7. *Strongly condemns* all forms of violence to which humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel are increasingly subjected, as well as any act or failure to act, contrary to international law, which obstructs or prevents humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel from discharging their humanitarian functions;

8. *Urges* all States to take necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel;

9. *Reaffirms* the leading role of civilian organizations in implementing humanitarian assistance, particularly in areas affected by conflicts, affirms the need, in situations where military capacity and assets are used to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance, for their use to be in conformity with international humanitarian law and humanitarian principles, and in this regard takes note of the 2003 Guidelines on the use of military and civil defence assets to support United Nations humanitarian activities in complex emergencies, as well as of the 1994 Guidelines on the use of military and civil defence assets in disaster relief;

10. *Calls upon* all Governments and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel as well as supplies and equipment in order to allow them to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

11. *Encourages* Member States with internally displaced persons to develop or strengthen, as appropriate, national laws, policies and minimum standards on internal displacement inter alia, taking into account the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[3] and to continue to work with humanitarian agencies in endeavours to provide a more predictable response to the needs of internally displaced persons, and in this regard calls for international support, upon request, to capacity-building efforts of Governments;

12. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all States and parties to an armed conflict to protect civilians in armed conflicts in accordance with international humanitarian

[3] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex

law, and invites States to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities;

13. *Welcomes* the continued efforts to address the issue of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse in the context of humanitarian crises, and notes with interest the Secretary-General's bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse;[4]

14. Encourages the donor community to improve its response to humanitarian emergencies through policies and practices of good donorship, together with mechanisms for their review, and welcomes steps taken in this direction;

15. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations organizations to improve and increase consistency in the way in which humanitarian needs are assessed;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council at its 2004 substantive session, on progress made in strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, including the implementation of and follow-up to Council resolution 2003/5 of 15 July 2003.

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[4] ST/SGB/2003/13.

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 40 (b)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen and Zambia: draft resolution

Assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/160 of 18 December 1992 and subsequent relevant resolutions, in particular resolutions 56/106 of 14 December 2001 and 57/154 of 16 December 2002,

Noting with serious concern that the current four-year drought in Somalia threatens the lives of Somali nomads as well as livestock,

Noting with grave concern the high mortality rates of over 80 per cent of livestock in the worst-affected areas of the Sool and Sanaag plateau of Somalia and the high risk of starvation of Somali nomads,

Noting with serious concern the threat, as a result of this drought, of an imminent collapse of the Somali economy, and in particular of the pastoral economy and social support systems,

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Underlining the urgent need for humanitarian assistance, relief and reconstruction,

Noting the linkage between the search for peace and alleviation of the humanitarian crisis in Somalia,

Welcoming the continued focus of the United Nations, in partnership with civil society at the grass-roots level, on programmes of assistance, including both humanitarian and development approaches, taking into consideration the conditions on the ground,

Recalling statements by the President of the Security Council of 31 October 2001[1] and 28 March 2002,[2] by which the Council condemned attacks on humanitarian personnel and called upon all parties in Somalia to respect fully the security and safety of personnel of the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and non-governmental organizations, and to guarantee their complete freedom of movement and access throughout Somalia,

Re-emphasizing the importance of the further implementation of its resolutions 47/160, 56/106 and 57/154 to rehabilitate basic social and economic services throughout the country,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General,[3]

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued and tireless efforts to mobilize assistance for the Somali people;

2. *Reiterates its firm support* for the national reconciliation process sponsored by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, and in particular for the ongoing peace conference in Kenya and the efforts of the Facilitation Committee in this regard, urges all parties throughout Somalia to participate in the process, and invites the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and its member States to continue their efforts to promote national reconciliation in Somalia;

3. *Encourages* the further implementation of its resolution 47/160 to rehabilitate basic social and economic services throughout Somalia;

4. *Welcomes* the strategy of the United Nations focusing on the implementation of community-based interventions aimed at rebuilding local infrastructures and increased self-reliance of the local population, and the ongoing efforts by the United Nations agencies, their Somali counterparts and their partner organizations to establish and maintain close coordination and cooperation mechanisms available for the implementation of the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction programme;

5. *Notes* the incremental and prioritized approach of the United Nations system to addressing the continuing crisis and needs in Somalia while maintaining long-term commitments to rehabilitation, recovery and development activities;

6. *Commends* the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat for its response and underlines the urgent need for

[1] S/PRST/2001/30.
[2] S/PRST/2002/8.
[3] A/58/133, S/2003/231, S/2003/636 and S/2003/987.

putting in place practical measures aimed at the alleviation of the consequences of the drought in Somalia;

7. *Urges* all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to continue to implement further its resolutions 47/160, 56/106 and 57/154 in order to assist the Somali people in embarking on the rehabilitation of basic social and economic services, as well as institution-building aimed at the restoration of structures of civil governance at all levels in all parts of the country in which peace and security prevail;

8. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize international humanitarian, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance for Somalia;

9. *Calls upon* all Somali parties to respect the security and safety of the personnel of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations and to guarantee their complete freedom of movement and safe access throughout Somalia;

10. *Urges* the international community to provide as a matter of urgency humanitarian assistance and relief to the Somali people to alleviate in particular the consequences of the prevailing drought;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to provide continuing and increased assistance in response to the United Nations 2004 Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance for Somalia;

12. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the establishment of the Trust Fund for Peace-Building in Somalia, welcomes the contributions made thus far to the Fund, and appeals to Member States to contribute to it;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in view of the critical situation in Somalia, to take all necessary and practicable measures for the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 40 (b)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen and Zambia: draft resolution

Assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Austria, France, Ireland, Norway and Portugal

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 40 (b)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Algeria, Angola, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, India, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Yemen: draft resolution

Economic assistance for the reconstruction and development of Djibouti

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/108 of 14 December 2001 and its previous resolutions on economic assistance to Djibouti,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1]

Recalling further the Brussels Declaration[2] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,[3] adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries on 20 May 2001, as well as the mutual commitments undertaken on that occasion and the importance attached to follow-up and the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Aware that Djibouti is included in the list of least developed countries and that it is ranked 153rd out of the 175 countries studied in the *Human Development Report 2003*,[4]

Noting that the economic and social development efforts of Djibouti are constrained by the extremes of the local climate, in particular cyclical droughts, and

[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] A/CONF.191/12.

[3] A/CONF.191/11.

[4] Published for the United Nations Development Programme by Economica, Paris, 2003.

03-65089 (E) 111203

that the implementation of reconstruction and development programmes requires the deployment of substantial resources which exceed the limited capacity of the country,

Noting also that the situation in Djibouti has been made worse by the disastrous drought situation prevailing in the Horn of Africa and by the absence of natural resources, which continues to place serious constraints on the fragile economic, budgetary, social and administrative infrastructure of the country,

Expressing its concern at the severe shortage of drinkable water and the dramatic projected figures for the year 2020 as reflected in the *Human Development Report 2003*,

Noting with satisfaction that the Government of Djibouti is pursuing the implementation of a reform programme and is about to finalize with the international financial institutions a poverty reduction strategy paper,

Noting with gratitude the support provided by various countries, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to the country's humanitarian needs,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[5]

2. *Declares its solidarity* with the Government and the people of Djibouti, who continue to face critical developmental and humanitarian challenges owing, in particular, to the scarcity of natural resources, coupled with harsh climatic conditions and the acute issue of water supply impacting on the country's development aspirations;

3. *Encourages* the Government of Djibouti, despite difficult economic and regional situations, to continue its serious efforts towards the consolidation of democracy;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the implementation of a reform programme by Djibouti, and in that context appeals to all Governments, international financial institutions, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to respond adequately to the financial and material needs of the country in line with the poverty reduction strategy paper;

5. *Expresses its gratitude* to the intergovernmental organizations and the specialized agencies of the United Nations for their contributions to the national rehabilitation of Djibouti, and invites them to continue their efforts;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to make the international community aware of the difficulties faced by Djibouti, and welcomes his initiative to appoint a special envoy for humanitarian affairs for the Horn of Africa, with the objective of mobilizing resources for relief support as well as sustainable development;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, in close cooperation with the Government of Djibouti, his efforts to mobilize resources necessary for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance to Djibouti;

[5] A/58/285.

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the humanitarian situation of Djibouti and on the progress made with regard to economic assistance to Djibouti and the implementation of the present resolution.

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Agenda item 40 (b)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Algeria, Angola, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, India, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Yemen: draft resolution

Economic assistance for the reconstruction and development of Djibouti

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/108 of 14 December 2001 and its previous resolutions on economic assistance to Djibouti,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1]

Recalling further the Brussels Declaration[2] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,[3] adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries on 20 May 2001, as well as the mutual commitments undertaken on that occasion and the importance attached to follow-up and the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Aware that Djibouti is included in the list of least developed countries and that it is ranked 153rd out of the 175 countries studied in the *Human Development Report 2003*,[4]

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] A/CONF.191/12.

[3] A/CONF.191/11.

[4] Published for the United Nations Development Programme by Economica, Paris, 2003.

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Noting that the economic and social development efforts of Djibouti are constrained by the extremes of the local climate, in particular cyclical droughts, and that the implementation of reconstruction and development programmes requires the deployment of substantial resources which exceed the limited capacity of the country,

Noting also that the situation in Djibouti has been made worse by the disastrous drought situation prevailing in the Horn of Africa and by the absence of natural resources, which continues to place serious constraints on the fragile economic, budgetary, social and administrative infrastructure of the country,

Expressing its concern at the severe shortage of drinkable water and the dramatic projected figures for the year 2020 as reflected in the Report of the Secretary-General,[5]

Noting with satisfaction that the Government of Djibouti is pursuing the implementation of a reform programme and is about to finalize with the international financial institutions a poverty reduction strategy paper,

Noting with gratitude the support provided by various countries, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to the country's humanitarian needs,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[5]

2. *Declares its solidarity* with the Government and the people of Djibouti, who continue to face critical developmental and humanitarian challenges owing, in particular, to the scarcity of natural resources, coupled with harsh climatic conditions and the acute issue of water supply impacting on the country's development aspirations;

3. *Encourages* the Government of Djibouti, despite difficult economic and regional situations, to continue its serious efforts towards the consolidation of democracy;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the implementation of a reform programme by Djibouti, and in that context appeals to all Governments, international financial institutions, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to respond adequately to the financial and material needs of the country in line with the poverty reduction strategy paper;

5. *Expresses its gratitude* to the intergovernmental organizations and the specialized agencies of the United Nations for their contributions to the national rehabilitation of Djibouti, and invites them to continue their efforts;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to make the international community aware of the difficulties faced by Djibouti, and welcomes his initiative to appoint a special envoy for humanitarian affairs for the Horn of Africa, with the objective of mobilizing resources for relief support as well as sustainable development;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, in close cooperation with the Government of Djibouti, his efforts to mobilize resources necessary for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance to Djibouti;

[5] A/58/285.

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the humanitarian situation of Djibouti and on the progress made with regard to economic assistance to Djibouti and the implementation of the present resolution.

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Agenda item 40 (b)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Belize, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Malawi, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Suriname: draft resolution

International assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming all relevant resolutions of the General Assembly that emphasize and acknowledge the importance of international, bilateral and multilateral economic, financial and technical support, cooperation and assistance given by the United Nations system, the international community and non-governmental organizations, which provide a framework for the provision of aid to the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America,[1] in support of national efforts to make the region a zone of peace, freedom, democracy and development,

Noting that the Central American countries have achieved significant progress towards the consolidation of democracy and good governance, the strengthening of civilian Governments, respect for human rights and the rule of law, all as a tool for promoting sustainable development and regional integration, reflecting the desire of the Central American peoples to live and prosper in a climate of peace, solidarity and social justice,

Stressing the importance of the commitments, and their implementation, as undertaken by the regional summits and ministerial meetings, in particular those areas included in the programme initiatives of the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America in the political, economic, social and ecological fields, which allow a progressive improvement in the quality of life for the people of the region,

[1] See A/49/580-S/1994/1217, annex I.

03-65225 (E) 151203

Noting that the various natural phenomena which have affected the region are one of the factors that have put at risk the biodiversity of Central America,

Emphasizing that the progress made in complying with the commitments established in the programme of the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America creates the necessary conditions for implementing the policies for reducing the vulnerability of the region to natural disasters,

Noting that the framework of the Puebla-Panama Plan includes the Mesoamerican Initiative for the Prevention and Mitigation of Natural Disasters, as well as others that promote the conservation and sustainable management of natural resources, and encompasses the Strategy for the Transformation and Modernization of Central America in the Twenty-first Century, presented during the Regional Consultative Group meeting, held in Madrid on 8 and 9 March 2001, and the Strategy for the South-Southeast of Mexico,

Noting the adoption in 2001 of the Regional Mechanism of Coordination of Mutual Assistance in Case of Disasters, as well as the successful work of the Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America and, in particular, its mandate to hold the Mitch +5 Regional Forum, and the Regional Programme for Risk Management in Central America of the Coordination Centre and the United Nations Development Programme,

Welcoming the adoption of the Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and Central America, which should result in the conclusion of future agreements strengthening the San José Dialogue process and expanding it to, inter alia, economic areas, migration and the campaign against international terrorism,

Recognizing the progress made in the elimination of anti-personnel mines from Central American territory as well as the need to rehabilitate and reintegrate mine victims in their communities in order to restore normal conditions for the full development of the region,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Notes* the significant reduction in the last two years of the non-reimbursable international assistance and cooperation extended to the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America, as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General;

3. *Supports* the decision of the Central American Governments to promote in a harmonious and balanced way the sustained economic, social, cultural, environmental and political development of its member States and the development of the region as a whole through programmes which help to consolidate democracy and resolve social inequalities and extreme poverty;

4. *Reiterates* the importance of supporting and strengthening the efforts of the Central American countries in the implementation of the Regional Mechanism of Coordination of Mutual Assistance in Case of Disasters and the Regional Plan for Disaster Reduction as well as the implementation of the Strategic Framework for the Reduction of Vulnerability and Disasters in Central America[3] and, in particular, of

[2] A/58/286.

[3] See ibid.

taking measures for the prevention and mitigation of damage, with special emphasis on the most vulnerable groups and sectors;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and all States, international financial institutions and regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate, to continue providing the support needed to attain the objectives of the programme for the sustainable development of Central America, including those which are being pursued within the framework of the Quinquennium for the Reduction of Vulnerability to and the Impact of Natural Disasters in Central America;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the revision of the subregional cooperation programme in Central America of the United Nations Development Programme, launched in 1996, and of the national programmes of other United Nations agencies and other humanitarian agencies on the basis of the priorities established in the regional development strategy entitled "Strategy for the transformation and modernization of Central America", contained in the initiatives of the Puebla-Panama Plan;

7. *Encourages* the Governments and disaster-related organizations of Central America to continue implementing the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction in order to reduce the vulnerability to hazards, and urges the international community to contribute to these efforts, including, as appropriate, through cooperation and technical assistance;

8. *Notes with satisfaction* the renewal, in December 2002, of the commitment by bilateral and the multilateral development organizations to the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor, as one of the pillars for sustainable development comprising the conservation of natural resources, economic competitiveness and efforts to alleviate poverty, which is being developed with assistance from the United Nations Development Programme's own funds, the Global Environment Facility through the World Bank, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Inter-American Development Bank, the German Agency for Technical Cooperation and the United States Agency for International Development;

9. *Recognizes* the efforts and achievements relating to mine clearance in Central America, and calls upon the relevant organs of the United Nations system, the Organization of American States, as well as the international community, to continue providing the material, technical and financial support needed by the Central American Governments to complete mine-clearance, mine-awareness and victim assistance activities in the region, in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction;[4]

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the implementation of the present resolution as part of a consolidated report under the item entitled "The situation in Central America: progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development".

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[4] See CD/1478.

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 40 (d)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development

Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Malta, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay: draft resolution

Participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 50/19 of 28 November 1995, 52/171 of 16 December 1997, 54/98 of 8 December 1999 and 56/102 of 14 December 2001,

Reaffirming also its resolutions 46/182 of 19 December 1991, 47/168 of 22 December 1992, 48/57 of 14 December 1993, 49/139 A and B of 20 December 1994, 50/57 of 12 December 1995 and 51/194 of 17 December 1996 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1995/56 of 28 July 1995 and 1996/33 of 25 July 1996,

Emphasizing the need to address the strategic planning gap between relief and development activities in the context of humanitarian emergencies, taking into

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account the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1]

Recognizing that the international community, in addressing the growing magnitude and complexity of man-made and natural disasters, and chronic situations characterized by hunger, malnutrition and poverty, must rely not only on the formulation of a well-coordinated global response within the framework of the United Nations but also on the promotion of a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development,

Recalling once again that prevention, preparedness and contingency planning for emergencies on a global level depend, for the most part, on the strengthening of local and national response capacities as well as on the availability of financial resources, both domestic and international,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[2] prepared in pursuance of its resolution 56/102 on the participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development;

2. *Recognizes* the value of domestic and regional actions aimed at making pre-identified, standby and trained national volunteer corps such as the White Helmets available to the United Nations system, through the United Nations Volunteers and other agencies, and in accordance with accepted United Nations procedures and practices, in order to provide specialized human and technical resources for emergency relief and rehabilitation;

3. *Expresses its satisfaction* for the progress of the White Helmets initiative as a singular voluntary international effort to provide the United Nations system with voluntary expertise to respond, in a quick and coordinated manner, to United Nations appeals concerning humanitarian relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, while preserving the non-political, neutral and impartial character of humanitarian action;

4. *Encourages* Member States to identify their respective national focal points for the White Helmets in order to continue to provide the United Nations system with an accessible global network of rapid response facilities in case of humanitarian emergencies;

5. *Recognizes with appreciation* the progress made by the States members of the Common Market of the South and its associated partners in strengthening and broadening the regional role of the White Helmets initiative, and encourages Member States in other regional associations to make similar joint efforts;

6. *Encourages* operational partners of the United Nations system, in particular United Nations Volunteers and the United Nations Development Programme, to draw upon the voluntary expertise of the White Helmets, as appropriate, including in their response to chronic situations characterized by hunger, malnutrition and poverty;

7. *Recognizes* that the White Helmets initiative can play an important role in the promotion, diffusion and fulfilment of the decisions achieved in the United

[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] A/58/320.

Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] and invites Member States in a position to do so to consider means to ensure the integration of the White Helmets initiative into their programme activities and to make the commensurate financial resources available through the special financing window of the Special Voluntary Fund of the United Nations Volunteers, or in coordination with it;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General, on the basis of the experience acquired, to consider further the potential use of White Helmets as a resource for preventing and mitigating the effects of post-conflict humanitarian emergencies and, in this context, to maintain adequate support for the White Helmets liaison functions, taking into account the outgoing reforms process;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take into consideration the ten years that will have passed since the adoption of its resolution 49/139 B of 20 December 1994, the first resolution on the White Helmets initiative, and, in view of the success of coordinated actions carried out since then with, inter alia, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Volunteers, to consider their impact and to analyse possible steps and modalities to enhance the integration of the White Helmets initiative within the work of the United Nations system, suggesting appropriate mechanisms and areas, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 40 (d)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development

Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Malta, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay: draft resolution

Participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Bangladesh, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Georgia, Lithuania, Madagascar, Monaco, Nigeria and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

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United Nations A/58/L.44

General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 40 (c)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, China, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Malawi, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan: draft resolution

Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 45/190 of 21 December 1990, 46/150 of 18 December 1991, 47/165 of 18 December 1992, 48/206 of 21 December 1993, 50/134 of 20 December 1995, 52/172 of 16 December 1997, 54/97 of 8 December 1999 and 56/109 of 14 December 2001, as well as resolution 55/171 of 14 December 2000 on closure of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, and taking note of the decisions adopted by the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system in the implementation of those resolutions,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1990/50 of 13 July 1990, 1991/51 of 26 July 1991 and 1992/38 of 30 July 1992 and Council decision 1993/232 of 22 July 1993,

Conscious of the long-term nature of the consequences of the disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, which was a major technological catastrophe in terms of its scope and complexity and created humanitarian, environmental, social, economic and health consequences and problems of common concern, requiring for their solution wide and active international cooperation and coordination of efforts in this field at the international and national levels,

03-65350 (E) 151203

Expressing profound concern at the ongoing effects of the consequences of the accident on the lives and health of people, in particular children, in the affected areas of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, as well as in other affected countries,

Acknowledging the importance of the national efforts being undertaken by the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine to mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster,

Noting with appreciation the contribution made by States and by organizations of the United Nations system to the development of cooperation to mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, the activities of regional and other organizations and those of non-governmental organizations, as well as bilateral activities,

Recognizing the importance of continuing international support to the national efforts of the Governments and civil societies of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, as the most affected countries, to mitigate and minimize the persisting negative effects of the Chernobyl disaster on the sustainable development of the affected areas as a result of the radiological, health, socio-economic, psychological and environmental consequences of the disaster,

Welcoming the increased role played by the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations resident coordinators and the United Nations country teams in Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine in helping to address both the developmental and the humanitarian consequences of the catastrophe,

Taking note of the United Nations report entitled "The Human Consequences of the Chernobyl Nuclear Accident: A Strategy for Recovery", prepared on the basis of an international needs assessment undertaken in mid-2001 in the affected areas of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine,

Emphasizing the importance of the new developmental approach to tackling the problems caused by the Chernobyl accident, aimed at normalizing the situation of the individuals and communities concerned in the medium and long term,

Stressing the continued need for a response to the exceptional Chernobyl-related needs, in particular in the areas of health, ecology and research, as the transition is made from the emergency to the recovery phase of mitigation of the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, as mentioned in the United Nations report entitled "The Human Consequences of the Chernobyl Nuclear Accident: A Strategy for Recovery",

Welcoming the launch of the International Chernobyl Research and Information Network, with the aim of supporting the ongoing international, national and civil society efforts towards the sustainable development of the affected territories by compiling, consolidating and coordinating relevant scientific research, commissioning further research where required, and making available and ensuring the effective dissemination of its findings, which should allow informed decision-making on the phases of long-term recovery and management with a view to improving the complex and diverse humanitarian, ecological, economic, social and medical situations in those territories,

Welcoming also the establishment of the Chernobyl Forum by the International Atomic Energy Agency, with the participation of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian

Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, the World Health Organization, the World Bank and representatives of the three most affected States,

Welcoming further the coordination of the activities of the International Chernobyl Research and Information Network and the Chernobyl Forum, and efforts to ensure the substantial integration of the Forum's assessment of environmental and health consequences into the Network process,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of resolution 56/109,[1]

1. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations plays an important catalytic and coordinating role in the strengthening of international cooperation to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and commends the contribution made by all other relevant multilateral mechanisms to this end;

2. *Welcomes* the further practical measures that have been taken by the Secretary-General and the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl to strengthen coordination of the international efforts in that area, especially the launch of the International Chernobyl Research and Information Network;

3. *Welcomes also* the efforts undertaken by the agencies of the United Nations system and other international organizations members of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Chernobyl to implement a new developmental approach to studying, mitigating and minimizing the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, in particular through the development of specific projects, and requests the Inter-Agency Task Force to continue its activities to that end, including through coordinating efforts in the field of resource mobilization;

4. *Acknowledges* the difficulties faced by the most affected countries in minimizing the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and invites States, in particular donor States and all relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, as well as non-governmental organizations, to continue to provide support to the ongoing efforts of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, including through the allocation of additional funds to support medical, social, economic and ecological programmes related to the disaster;

5. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the recent development of the Cooperation for Rehabilitation programme, aimed at promoting better living conditions in and the sustainable development of the affected territories;

6. *Emphasizes* the important role of the authorities of the affected countries in mitigating the humanitarian and other consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe, and welcomes the continued efforts of the affected countries in this regard, including the measures taken with a view to facilitating the work of humanitarian organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to mitigate the humanitarian and other consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe;

7. *Stresses* the need for coordinated international cooperation in studying the consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe, in particular through effective work

[1] A/58/332.

of the International Chernobyl Research and Information Network, the Chernobyl Forum, the International Chernobyl Centre for nuclear safety, radioactive waste and radioecology, and other research centres from the most affected countries, and invites Member States and all interested parties to take part in their activities;

8. *Welcomes* the decision of the Council of Heads of State of the Commonwealth of Independent States to proclaim 26 April the International Day Commemorating Victims of Radiation Accidents and Catastrophes in the States members of the Commonwealth;

9. *Invites* Member States to observe this International Day and to conduct appropriate activities to commemorate victims of radiation accidents and catastrophes and to enhance public awareness of their consequences for human health and the environment throughout the world;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in the implementation of the relevant General Assembly resolutions and, through existing coordination mechanisms, in particular the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl, to continue to maintain close cooperation with the agencies of the United Nations system, as well as with regional and other relevant organizations, while implementing specific Chernobyl-related programmes and projects;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to consider possible ways to strengthen further the coordination, analytical, advocacy and technical capacities of the United Nations in the field, as well as at Headquarters, as described in the report of the Secretary-General,[1] with due regard to the existing administrative and budgetary capacity of the Organization;

12. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session, under a separate sub-item, a report containing a comprehensive assessment of the implementation of all aspects of the present resolution and proposals for innovative measures for optimizing the effectiveness of the response of the international community, including the United Nations, to the Chernobyl disaster, as well as to consider how to better focus international cooperation to achieve a long-term developmental approach for the affected areas, bearing in mind the exceptional Chernobyl-related needs.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 40 (b)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Algeria, Angola, Bahrain, Benin, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Grenada, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Nepal, Oman, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania and Yemen: draft resolution

Special emergency economic assistance for the recovery and the development of the Comoros

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/30 F of 13 December 1996 and 53/1 F of 16 November 1998, on special emergency economic assistance to the Comoros,

Noting that since 1995 the Comoros has been subjected to several major events, including a secessionist conflict, which created serious political instability and caused economic and social trauma,

Considering that the unfavourable and insular situation of the Comoros, which is among the least developed countries, the decline in the country's gross domestic product caused by the fall in the prices of its export products, the poverty of its soil, the scarcity of its natural resources and the diminutive size of its domestic market have adverse economic consequences and increase the impoverishment of the population,

Aware of the efforts made by the Government of the Comoros to assist the most affected and deprived sectors of the population and to reallocate to that end, as a matter of great urgency, the major part of the budget required for the functioning of the State,

03-65513 (E) 151203

1. *Welcomes* the signing of the Fomboni Agreement in February 2001, which created prospects for a peaceful resolution of the political crisis between the Comoros and the authorities of the autonomous islands;

2. *Reaffirms* its support for South Africa, the African Union, the International Organization of la Francophonie and other countries of the region in the mediation efforts to resolve the Comorian crisis;

3. *Welcomes* the recommendations contained in the statement signed by the Friends of the Comoros in Paris on 29 October 2003 and the declaration of the Indian Ocean Commission issued in Moroni on 30 October 2003;

4. *Urges* the Government of the Comoros and the governments of the autonomous islands to pursue the efforts under way, to accelerate the organization of legislative elections and to establish the remaining national institutions as stipulated by the Constitution;

5. *Reaffirms* that the primary responsibility for the well-being of the people and the development of the economy rests firmly with the Government of the Comoros and the governments of the autonomous islands;

6. *Expresses* its appreciation to all States and to all the international organizations concerned, including United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, for the assistance they have provided for the relief of the Comoros;

7. *Stresses* that the financial resources available remain nonetheless insufficient vis-à-vis the most basic needs for ensuring the humanitarian, economic and political recovery of the country;

8. *Requests* Member States, international organizations and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, in the event of an agreement between the Comoros and the authorities of the autonomous islands, and while awaiting the finalization of the Fomboni Agreement by early 2004, to direct their financial and technical assistance towards assisting the most affected sectors of the population during and after the transition period, achieving reconstruction and sustainable development and enabling the country to re-engage with the international financial institutions;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with all relevant United Nations departments and specialized agencies, as well as international organizations already working in the Comoros, to gather relevant information and assess the needs of the country and the possible assistance from the international community;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make efforts to mobilize Member States, relevant United Nations specialized agencies and other organizations in order to provide the Comoros with necessary financial, economic and technical assistance, particularly in the form of debt forgiveness, in order to enable it to fully implement the Fomboni Agreement, particularly to organize legislative elections;

11. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 40 (b)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Belize, Benin, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Comoros, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mozambique, Nauru, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania and Uruguay: draft resolution

Assistance for humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and development for Timor-Leste

The General Assembly,

Recalling all of its relevant resolutions on the situation in Timor-Leste,

Recalling also all of the relevant Security Council resolutions and decisions on the situation in Timor-Leste, in particular resolutions 1473 (2003) of 4 April 2003 and 1480 (2003) of 19 May 2003, acknowledging the ongoing crucial role of the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor and the leadership of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in assisting the people of Timor-Leste,

Recognizing the essential role played by the international community, including the United Nations, other intergovernmental organizations, Member States and non-governmental organizations, in supporting the nation-building process of Timor-Leste,

Acknowledging the progress made in the transition from relief and rehabilitation to development in Timor-Leste, while noting continuing vulnerabilities, including the need to strengthen the preparedness and response capacity of the Government of Timor-Leste for addressing humanitarian

03-65526 (E) 151203

emergencies, and the significant challenges of rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, in particular in the initial years of independence,

Emphasizing the need for continued international assistance to support the development of Timor-Leste in, inter alia, the education, health, agriculture, infrastructure, judicial, public administration and law enforcement sectors,

Welcoming the efforts of the Government of Indonesia and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in providing humanitarian assistance to the refugees of Timor-Leste in the Indonesian province of East Nusa Tenggara, in facilitating their return to and reintegration in Timor-Leste or in assisting with their local integration and resettlement, as appropriate, in Indonesia,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Welcomes also* the commitment of the international community to meet the external requirements for rehabilitation, reconstruction and development activities for Timor-Leste;

3. *Urges* the United Nations, other intergovernmental organizations, Member States and non-governmental organizations to continue to support the Government and the people of Timor-Leste in their endeavours towards self-sustainable nation-building and in facing the remaining vulnerabilities and challenges, such as nationwide capacity-building in all sectors, national reconciliation and the return of refugees to Timor-Leste, and sustainable development;

4. *Acknowledges* that a transparent, effective and functioning democratic governmental administration is crucial to fostering a stable and secure social, economic and political environment in Timor-Leste, and in this regard urges the international community to continue to support efforts aimed at institution-building and the training of civil servants, in particular in the areas of public finances and senior management and in the development and maintenance of central and local administrative systems of government;

5. *Acknowledges also* the need to expedite the development of the justice sector of Timor-Leste, and in this regard urges further international support in the areas of law enforcement, the judiciary and the prison system;

6. *Welcomes* the continuing response of the international community to the need for food aid, and calls upon the United Nations, other intergovernmental organizations, Member States and non-governmental organizations to assist Timor-Leste in ensuring sustainable development in the areas of agriculture, livestock and fisheries;

7. *Welcomes with appreciation* the assistance provided by Member States, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the World Food Programme and all other international and non-governmental organizations in response to the appeals by the Government of Timor-Leste during the floods and drought;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the progress made in rehabilitating infrastructure, and recommends that outstanding infrastructure needs remain a focus

[1] A/58/280.

of international assistance in such areas as the reconstruction and rehabilitation of public buildings, educational facilities, roads and public services;

9. *Commends* the continuous international response in providing health services to the general population, including the early deployment of immunization and disease prevention programmes and reproductive health-care and child nutrition programmes, while recognizing the need for further assistance to rebuild hospitals, train health-care professionals and enhance capacity-building to meet the challenges to public health posed by such diseases as tuberculosis, malaria and HIV/AIDS;

10. *Welcomes* the progress made in the rehabilitation of schools, the supply and distribution of educational materials and teacher training, while emphasizing the need for capacity-building, particularly in the area of secondary and higher education, and for continued attention to the rehabilitation needs, including psychosocial support, of children affected by violence;

11. *Welcomes also* the growing participation of the women of Timor-Leste in all aspects of society, and encourages further efforts to address gender issues, including the needs for research, services and appropriate legislation in order to combat domestic violence and other gender-related crimes;

12. *Further welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation to facilitate national reconciliation and the return of refugees to Timor-Leste;

13. *Welcomes* the commitment and contribution made by the Government of Indonesia and by the international community to the Special Fund established for former employees and pensioners of the Government of Indonesia in Timor-Leste and the progress made by the United Nations Development Programme in disbursing funds from the Special Fund, and encourages the international community to consider increasing its contributions;

14. *Also welcomes* the holding, in Dili in September 2003, of the second meeting of the Joint Ministerial Commission for Bilateral Cooperation between Indonesia and Timor-Leste, which emphasized the importance of good relations and of further enhancing and facilitating cooperation in all areas of common interest;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly for consideration at its sixtieth session.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 40
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance

Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 53/87 of 7 December 1998, 54/192 of 17 December 1999, 55/175 of 19 December 2000, 56/217 of 21 December 2001 and 57/155 of 16 December 2002 on safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, as well as resolutions 52/167 of 16 December 1997 on safety and security of humanitarian personnel and 52/126 of 12 December 1997 on protection of United Nations personnel, and Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/5 of 15 July 2003,

Welcoming the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003 on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the protection of civilians in armed conflict[1] and of Security Council resolutions 1265 (1999) of 17 September 1999 and 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000 and the recommendations made therein, as well as the statements by the President of the Council of 30 November

[1] S/2001/331 and S/2002/1300.

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1999, on the role of the Council in the prevention of armed conflicts,[2] 13 January 2000, on humanitarian assistance to refugees in Africa,[3] 9 February 2000, on protection of United Nations personnel, its associated personnel and humanitarian personnel in conflict zones,[4] 9 March 2000, on humanitarian aspects of issues before the Council,[5] and 15 March 2002, on the aide-memoire for the consideration of issues pertaining to the protection of civilians in armed conflict,[6] and noting in that context the range of views expressed during all open debates of the Council on these issues,

Reaffirming the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international humanitarian law,

Concerned by the increasingly difficult context in which humanitarian assistance takes place in some areas, in particular the continuous erosion, in many cases, of respect for the principles and rules of international humanitarian law,

Deeply concerned by the dangers and security risks faced by humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel at the field level, and mindful of the need to improve the current security management system in order to improve their safety and security,

Gravely concerned at the acts of violence in many parts of the world against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel, in particular deliberate attacks, which are in violation of international humanitarian law as well as other international law that may be applicable,

Expressing profound regret at the deaths of all international and national humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel who were involved in the provision of humanitarian assistance, and strongly deploring the rising toll of casualties among such personnel in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations,

Commending the courage and commitment of those who take part, often at great personal risk, in humanitarian operations, especially of locally recruited staff,

Strongly condemning acts of murder and other forms of violence, rape and sexual assault, intimidation, armed robbery, abduction, hostage-taking, kidnapping, harassment and illegal arrest and detention to which those participating in humanitarian operations are increasingly exposed, as well as attacks on humanitarian convoys and acts of destruction and looting of their property,

Emphasizing that there are existing prohibitions under international law against attacks knowingly and intentionally directed against personnel involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission undertaken in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, which in situations of armed conflicts constitute war crimes,

Recalling the inclusion of attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission in accordance with

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[2] S/PRST/1999/34.
[3] S/PRST/2000/1.
[4] S/PRST/2000/4.
[5] S/PRST/2000/7.
[6] S/PRST/2002/6.

the Charter as a war crime in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, which entered into force on 1 July 2002,[7] and noting the role that the Court could play in appropriate cases in bringing to justice those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law,

Expressing concern that the occurrence of attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel is a factor that increasingly restricts the ability of the Organization to provide assistance and protection to civilians in fulfilment of its mandate under the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling that primary responsibility under international law for the security and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel lies with the Government hosting a United Nations operation conducted under the Charter or its agreements with relevant organizations,

Urging all other parties involved in armed conflicts, in compliance with international humanitarian law, in particular their obligations under the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[8] and the obligations applicable to them under the Additional Protocols thereto, of 8 June 1977,[9] to ensure the security and protection of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel,

Bearing in mind that reaching the vulnerable is essential for providing adequate protection and assistance in the context of natural disasters and complex emergencies as well as for strengthening local capacity to cope with humanitarian needs in such contexts,

Welcoming the fact that the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, which entered into force on 15 January 1999,[10] has been ratified or acceded to by sixty-nine States as at the present date, and mindful of the need to promote universality of the Convention,

Reaffirming the need to ensure adequate levels of safety and security for United Nations personnel and humanitarian personnel and a culture of accountability at all levels,

Reaffirming also that ensuring the safety and security of United Nations personnel constitutes an underlying duty of the Organization, which must be based on a necessary cost-sharing arrangement with the relevant agencies, funds and programmes within the United Nations system,

Guided by the relevant provisions on protection contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations of 13 February 1946,[11] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21 November 1947,[12] the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in

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[7] See *Official Records of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, Rome, 15 June-17 July 1998*, vol. I: *Final documents* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.I.5), sect. A.

[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

[9] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[10] Resolution 49/59, annex.

[11] Resolution 22 A (I).

[12] Resolution 179 (II).

Time of War of 12 August 1949[13] and the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions, and Amended Protocol II of 3 May 1996[14] to the Convention on Prohibitions and Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects of 10 October 1980,[15]

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General,[16] while noting that it does not cover developments after 30 June 2003;

2. *Urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the full and effective implementation of the relevant principles and rules of international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as the relevant provisions of human rights and refugee law related to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel;

3. *Also urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel and to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises, which are essential to the continuation and successful implementation of United Nations operations;

4. *Calls upon* all other parties involved in armed conflicts, in compliance with international humanitarian law, in particular their obligations under the 1949 Geneva Conventions[8] and the obligations applicable to them under the Additional Protocols thereto,[9] to ensure the safety and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel, to refrain from abducting or detaining them in violation of their immunity under relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law, and speedily to release, without harm, any abductee or detainee;

5. *Calls upon* all Governments and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel in order to allow them to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

6. *Strongly condemns* any act or failure to act, contrary to international law, which obstructs or prevents humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel from discharging their humanitarian functions, or which entails being subjected to threats, the use of force or physical attack, frequently resulting in injury or death, and affirms the need to hold accountable those who commit such acts and, for that purpose, the need to enact national legislation, as appropriate;

7. *Expresses deep concern* that, over the past decade, threats against the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated

[13] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[14] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex B.

[15] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 5, 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IX.4), appendix VII.

[16] A/58/34.

personnel have escalated at an unprecedented rate and that perpetrators of acts of violence seemingly operate with impunity,

8. *Strongly urges* all States to take stronger actions to ensure that any threat or act of violence committed against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel on their territory is investigated fully and to ensure that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice in accordance with international law and national law, and notes the need for States to end impunity for such acts;

9. *Calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to, and to respect fully their obligations under, the relevant international instruments, in particular the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;[10]

10. *Also calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;

11. *Further calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to and to respect fully their obligations under the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations[11] and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies,[12] which have been ratified so far by one hundred and forty-eight States and one hundred and eight States, respectively;

12. *Calls upon* all States to provide adequate and prompt information in the event of the arrest or detention of humanitarian personnel or United Nations and its associated personnel, to afford them the necessary medical assistance and to allow independent medical teams to visit and examine the health of those detained, and urges them to take the necessary measures to ensure the speedy release of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation who have been arrested or detained in violation of their immunity, in accordance with the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law;

13. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel to observe and respect the national laws of the country in which they are operating, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure full respect for the human rights, privileges and immunities of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation, and to continue to consider ways and means to strengthen the protection of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation, notably by seeking the inclusion, in negotiations of headquarters and other mission agreements concerning United Nations and its associated personnel, of the applicable conditions contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies and the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;

15. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General continue to seek the inclusion of, and that host countries include, key provisions of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, among others, those regarding the prevention of attacks against members of the operation, the establishment of such attacks as crimes punishable by law and the prosecution or extradition of offenders,

in future as well as, if necessary, in existing status-of-forces, status-of-mission and host country agreements negotiated between the United Nations and those countries, mindful of the importance of the timely conclusion of such agreements;

16. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work being done by the Ad Hoc Committee established in accordance with General Assembly resolution 56/89 of 12 December 2001, which will be reconvened in accordance with General Assembly resolution 58/82 of 9 December 2003, with a mandate to expand the scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, including, inter alia, by means of a legal instrument;

17. *Welcomes* the ongoing initiatives undertaken by the Secretary-General following the publication of the report of the Independent Panel on the Safety and Security of United Nations Personnel in Iraq headed by Martti Ahtisaari, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard as a matter of the highest priority, and to inform the General Assembly accordingly;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure that United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation are properly informed about the conditions under which they are called upon to operate, including relevant customs and traditions in the host country, and the standards that they are required to meet, including those contained in relevant domestic and international law, and that adequate training in security, human rights and international humanitarian law is provided so as to enhance their security and effectiveness in accomplishing their functions, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure that United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations humanitarian assistance operation are properly informed about and operate in conformity with the minimum operating security standards and relevant codes of conduct;

20. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures, falling within his responsibilities, to promote and enhance the security consciousness within the organizational culture of the Secretariat, the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, including by disseminating and enhancing the security procedures and regulations, to create awareness and consciousness by the United Nations personnel of those procedures and regulations and the need to follow them, and to ensure that security matters are an integral part of the planning for existing and newly mandated United Nations operations and that such precautions extend to all United Nations and its associated personnel;

21. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to further enhance the security management system of the United Nations, and in this regard, invites the United Nations and other humanitarian organizations to strengthen the analysis of threats to their safety and security in order to minimize security risks and to facilitate informed decisions on the maintenance of an effective presence in the field, inter alia, to fulfil their humanitarian mandate;

22. *Emphasizes* the need to give further consideration to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel, who account for the majority of casualties;

23. *Also emphasizes* the importance of paying special attention to the safety and security of United Nations and its associated personnel engaged in United Nations peacekeeping and peace-building operations;

24. *Stresses* the need to ensure that all United Nations staff members receive adequate security training, including physical and psychological training, prior to their deployment to the field, the need to attach a high priority to the improvement of stress and trauma counselling services available to United Nations staff members, including through the implementation of a comprehensive security and stress and trauma management training, support and assistance programme for United Nations staff throughout the system, before, during and after missions, and the need to make available to the Secretary-General the means for that purpose;

25. *Recognizes* the need for a strengthened and unified security management system for the United Nations, at both the headquarters and the field levels, and requests the United Nations system, as well as Member States, to take all appropriate measures to that end;

26. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator to continue to play a central role in promoting increased cooperation and collaboration among agencies, funds and programmes in the planning and implementation of measures aimed at improving staff security training and awareness and in strengthening the Inter-Agency Security Management Network, and calls upon all relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to support these efforts;

27. *Recognizes* the need for enhanced coordination and cooperation, both at the headquarters and the field levels, between the United Nations security management system and non-governmental organizations on matters relating to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel, with a view to addressing mutual security concerns in the field;

28. *Underlines* the need to allocate adequate and predictable resources to the safety and security of United Nations personnel, including through the Consolidated Appeals Process, and encourages all States to contribute to the Trust Fund for Security of Staff Members of the United Nations System;

29. *Recalls* the essential role of telecommunication resources in facilitating the safety of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel, calls upon States to consider acceding to or ratifying the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations of 18 June 1998, and encourages them to facilitate and expedite, consistent with their national laws and regulations, the use of communications equipment in such operations, and emphasizes the importance of States facilitating communications, inter alia, through limiting and, whenever possible, lifting the restrictions placed on the use of communications equipment by United Nations and its associated personnel;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a comprehensive and updated report on the safety and security situation of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel and on the implementation of the present resolution, including the progress made by the Secretary-General in pursuing accountability and assessing responsibility for all individual security incidents that involve United Nations and its associated personnel at all levels throughout the United Nations system, as well as an account

of the measures taken by Governments and the United Nations to prevent and respond to such incidents

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 40
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance

Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, France, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Serbia and Montenegro and Slovakia

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United Nations A/58/L.48

General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 3 (b)
Credentials of representatives to the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly: report of the Credentials Committee

Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Indonesia, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine: draft resolution

Representation of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee,

Noting that, pending the attainment of membership by Palestine as a Member State of the United Nations, the report does not currently address the issue of the credentials of Palestine, in its capacity as Observer, to the General Assembly,

Expressing its hope that the Palestinian people will soon exercise sovereignty in their State, Palestine,

Reaffirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Affirms that the Observer delegation of Palestine to the General Assembly represents the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, including East Jerusalem, and that the credentials of the delegation of Israel do not cover that territory.

03-65657 (E) 151203